

The Sun on January 6th, 2014

NASA reports that we are currently over five years into Cycle 24. The current predicted and observed size makes this the smallest sunspot cycle since Cycle 14 which had a maximum of 64.2 in February of 1906.

The current prediction for Sunspot Cycle 24 gives a smoothed sunspot number maximum of about 67 in the Summer of 2013. The smoothed sunspot number has already reached 67 (in February 2012) due to the strong peak in late 2011 so the official maximum will be at least this high. The smoothed sunspot number has been rising again towards a second peak over the last three months.

Although this has been a weak cycle, there is solar activity as you can see from today's photo. There is a huge group of sunspots, and a CME is heading toward Earth. The cloud was hurled into space by an explosion from sunspot AR1944 on Jan. 4th and is expected to deliver a glancing blow to our magnetic field on Jan. 7th. Minor to moderate geomagnetic storms are possible when the CME arrives. More info available at www.spaceweather.com and NASA

LARC Meeting Dates for 2014

January 9
February 13
March 13
April 10
May 8
June 12
September 11
October 9
November 13
December 11

January meeting will be in 274 in the McIntyre Building at Confederation College.

80 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Time flies when you are having fun. 80 years have past since the first meeting of the amateur radio community in Thunder Bay. It's time to put our collective heads together and find some fun ways to commemorate the past 80 years.



**The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club
1934 Charter Members**

Clockwise from left: --- Joe Sky VE3HA, John Fieldhouse VE3FO, Ray Godsalve VE3RA, Borge Rudman VE3VE, Stan Clark VE3OZ, E. Moore VE3KN, unknown, Bruce Grant VE3J, F.J. (Pat) O'Shea VE3FW, Charlie MacDonald VE3GS, Harry Raynor VE3CX, Art Chadwell, Cecil Partington VE3WH, Arnold Duncan VE3LY, Les Harris VE3GB (now VE3AYZ), Mike Caveney VE3GG and Brian O'Brien VE3UA.

On 17 April, 1934, all interested amateurs in Fort William and Port Arthur met at the YMCA, Fort William, where after a general discussion, "The Canadian Lakehead Wireless Experimenters" was organized. Pat O'Shea - VE3FW1 was elected President.

LARC SENATE

Robert Hansen VE3RVA
 Dave Kimpton VE3AVS
 Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD
 Terry Stewardson VA3LU
 Ed Baumann VE3SNW

LARC EXECUTIVE

**President - Jeff Cederwall
 VE3JTD**

**Vice President - Bob Hanson
 VE3RVA**

**Secretary - Karl Hamilton
 VE3RRP**

Treasurer -Bill Unger VE3XT

Directors

**Brad Harris VE3MXJ
 Andy Malcolm VE3INI
 Lori Bedford VE3VAI
 Terry Stewardson VA3LU**

LARC Emergency Coordinator

Brad Harris VE3MXJ 767-0628

**ARES District Emergency
 Coordinator**

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

CANWARN

**VA3JMS John 767-3631
 VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628**

Public Service Events

VA3JMS John 767-3631

Accredited Examiners

**VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789
 flesnick@tbaytel.net
 VE3VAI Lori Bedford 622 – 6386
 ve3vai@tbaytel.net**

ABOUT US

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at room 191 McIntyre Building, Confederation College, 7:30 PM. Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to ve3snw@shaw.ca

Nets in the Thunder Bay Area

Sunday AMETHYST ARES VHF NET, on VE3TBR 146.820- pl 107.2 IRLP Ref. # 9031 @ 0045Z (7:45 pm), also Cook County ARES Response Team (CARRT) net at 0100Z (8 pm) on the BWARC repeater, Grand Portage repeater - 146.655 with CTCSS 151.4

Monday SATERN NET on VE3TBR 146.820- pl 107.2 IRLP Ref. # 9032

SATERN DIGITAL NETS on **Monday & Wednesday** nights

8 pm- 14.065

9 pm- 7.065

10 pm- 3.5835

Mode :Olivia 8/500 1000Hz waterfall centre

Tuesday 2M/ LARC ARES NET on VE3YQT 147.060- @ 7:00PM ET, and after this net is the new THUNDER BAY ARES DIGITAL NET on PSK31 between 1000 & 2000 WATERFALL 145.050 FM mode @ 7:30PM (usually starts after the 2m/ ares net)

Every Day The NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO ARES NET , every evening at 8:15PM (local) on 80m 3.750Mhz (note the time does not change with daylight savings time.)

Any questions on these or other nets please feel free to contact me at my e-mail: ve3mxj@rac.ca

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch

VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 146.820 pl 107.2

**442.075 (+5 MHz)pl 100
 144.390 APRS**

VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)

Congratulations to Tim Ellam VE6AH



International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, was among those appointed Queen's Counsel in the Canadian Province of Alberta, for

"outstanding contributions to legal and public life."

The history of Queen's Counsel in England dates back to the 16th century. The practice of appointing Queen's Counsel was continued in Canada and predates Confederation. The first Queen's Counsel appointees were admitted in Upper Canada in 1841.

Modern practice has been for the Attorney General to call for QC applications from the public every other September. Applications are reviewed by the Law Society of Alberta's Queen's Counsel Screening Committee and recommendations for appointment are then submitted to the Minister and Cabinet for consideration and final selection. In Alberta, the Lieutenant Governor in Council appoints the Queen's Counsel recipients. -- Province of Albert - *from ARRL.org*

<http://www.larclub.ca/>

<http://rac.ca>

<http://arrl.org>



SPAR Announces Winter Field Day 2014

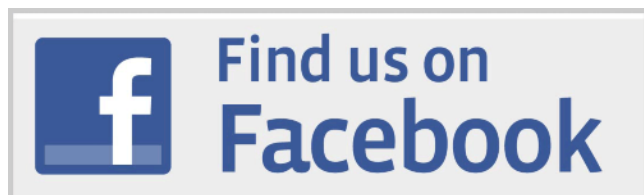
Not only during Field Day in June, do the bands come alive with improvised signals proving the ability to respond to emergencies. Since emergencies and natural disasters don't always happen in the summer, during Winter Field Day, frigid winds, icy limbs and bitter cold replace the thunderstorms and blistering heat of summer. In 2007 SPAR established a Winter Field Day event and invited all Amateur Radio operators to participate. The event was repeated in 2008 and was considered a success, so it was then designated an annual event to be held the last full weekend each January. In 2007 - 2013 the event was enjoyed by many, but it is time to issue the invitation for the Sixth Annual SPAR Winter Field Day!

The 2014 Winter Field Day will be held from 1700 UTC (12:00 noon EST) Saturday January 25, 2014 through 1700 UTC (12:00 noon EST) Sunday January 26, 2014. The object of the event is familiar to most Amateur Radio operators: set up emergency-style communications and make as many contacts as possible during the 24 hour period. The rules encourage as many contacts on as many bands and modes as possible, because during a real emergency, the most important factor is the ability to communicate, regardless of band, mode or distance.

The official rules can be found at the SPAR web site. The event is open to all amateurs, although we encourage everyone to join in the discussions and other activities sponsored by SPAR. Information about SPAR can be found on the SPAR Home Page. Membership is free and open to all amateurs who want to encourage technical and operating skills. You can register by going to the SPAR Forum and registering, using your amateur call-sign as your user name.

Please join with SPAR in promoting amateur radio and keeping our bands alive!

<http://www.spar-hams.org/contests/winterfd/index.php?pg=1>



North East Ontario Regional Directors Report for January, 2014

First I want to wish you all the best and lots of DX in 2014.

Lately there has been some ink in various locations regarding the training of Amateurs for Emergency Preparedness. The following is my own personal opinion so take it for what it's worth. In the not too distant future volunteers will not be allowed to assist in emergencies unless they can prove they have received some training, be they Amateurs or not. Now before someone jumps on me, when the "ship hits the sand" the first people on the scene trained or not will do what they can. But if the emergency goes on, the second wave of volunteer responders will need to be trained. During the last SET this was really brought home to me. I was asked to go to our local seniors station (VE3SAO) and send an email via HF

using a program called RMS Express. I didn't even know how to get the program running, never mind using it! Now after some training I am proficient with it. But learning how something works during an emergency just makes you a liability. So how do you get some training? First and best is to contact your local ARES group and say I'm interested in helping and receiving some training.

If you want to do some work on your own RAC has developed a training course and is available to all Canadian Amateurs. I would encourage you all to get some training so when called upon you're ready. Here is a link to get you started:

<https://www.rac.ca/fieldorg/RACARESTrainingManual.htm>

If you say I'm not interested in Public Service, you may want to browse it anyway as there is a lot of information and ideas that may be of some value to you.

This month sees one of the more interesting "contests" coming up. It's the Society for the Preservation of Amateur Radio (SPAR), Winter Field Day. Here is a link and I hope to work you from the field in this one.

<http://www.spar-hams.org/contests/winterfd/index.php?pg=2>

I am still hoping to get some questions on how or why RAC does what it does, this is your chance to quiz the Director. If you have any questions or concerns please email me at ve3xt@rac.ca

I had the opportunity to participate in the RAC Winter Contest operating /VE6 in Edmonton while visiting family. I managed to work 8 provinces with my KX1 at 2 W to an 8.5 M end fed with a pair of counterpoises. Hope your score was better than mine however and thanks to all those stations with great "ears" for hearing me. Next month I hope to focus on RAC membership, any questions?

Bill VE3XT

North East Ontario Regional Director
Radio Amateurs of Canada

**Radio Amateurs of Canada
Canada's National Amateur Radio Society
"We're ALL about Amateur Radio!"
Join today!**

December 2013 Treasurers Report

Balance December 01 2013 **\$1,935.90**

Income

Memberships \$70.00
 50/50 \$7.00

Total Income \$77.00

Expenses

TB Tel Cell \$2.83
 LARC Insurance \$549.72
 Bob Hansen, Tarp for Trailer \$33.21
 Bill Unger, Receipt book \$4.73
 Service Charge \$1.00

Total Expenses \$591.49

Balance December 31, 2013 **\$1,421.41**

<u>Trailer Account</u>		
	Previous Balance	\$954.14
<u>Income</u>		
December 31 Interest		\$0.08
Total		\$954.22
<u>Expenses</u>		
		\$0.00
Total Expenses:		\$0.00
	Balance in Trailer Account	\$954.22

Term Account

Balance December 01 2013 **\$2,031.12**
 Interest December 05 2013 **\$0.67**
 Balance December 31 2013 **\$2,031.79**

Bill Unger
VE3XT
Treasurer

January 2014

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 LARC Meeting room 274 in the McIntyre Building Con- federation Col- lege.	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 SPAR Winter Contest	26
27	28	29	30	31		